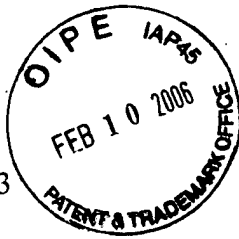


03500.015873



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Aung S. Moe
TETSUYA ITANO ET AL.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2685
Application No.: 09/976,096	)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 9346
Filed: October 15, 2001	)	
	:	
For: IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS	)	February 10, 2006
	:	

**Mail Stop RCE**  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Introductory Comments

In response to the Office Action mailed November 10, 2005, the Examiner is requested to amend the above-identified application as follows. Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.